

## HEALTH NEIGHBORHOOD SUMMIT

By Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige, LACDMH Public Information Officer



On Wednesday, December 10, 2014, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) co-organized the Los Angeles Health Neighborhood Summit at the California Endowment in downtown Los Angeles. The afternoon summit was entitled *Health Neighborhoods: Strategies for Improving Population-Based Health Outcomes*.

After a welcome from John Connolly, PhD (Insure the Uninsured Project), and LACDMH Director Marvin Southard, DSW, there was an introduction from LACDMH Deputy Director Cathy Warner, LCSW. That was followed by a presentation given by Dave Pilon, PhD, CPRP (Mental Health America of Los Angeles), and Kelly Colopy, MPP (City of Long Beach), entitled *The Long Beach Safety Net Collaborative: First Attempts at Creating a Health Neighborhood*.



Two other presentations also followed: *Community Empowerment to Improve Population Health* (given by Paul Simon, MD, MPH, LACDMH) and *Building Healthier Neighborhoods in Partnership with Faith Communities* (given by Yolanda Becerra-

Jones, Trustee, Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, and Youngsook Kim-Sasaki, RN, MSN, LACDMH).

The summit concluded with an introduction by LACDMH's Debbie Innes-Gomberg, PhD., who started a panel presentation and open discussion, including Dr. Southard, Alex Li, MD (Los Angeles County Department of Health Services), Kenneth Wells, MD, MPH (UCLA Center for Health Services and Society), Maria Calleros, MPH (LA Care Health Plan), and Wesley Ford, MA, MPH, (Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Substance Abuse Prevention & Control).

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